

February 4, 2009

General Law Committee Legislative Office Building, Room 3500 Hartford, CT 06106

As Vice President of Government Affairs LKQ Corporation, I ask that you support HB5946, which has been scheduled for a hearing in the House Committee on General Law on Thursday, February 5th.

House Bill 5946 would prohibit the advertising or offering of unlicensed motor vehicle recycling services. The practice of unlicensed motor vehicle recycling jeopardizes public health and safety as untrained, unregulated and unequipped personnel attempt to handle, dismantle and dispose of environmentally-harmful, waste-stream products and hazardous materials. By prohibiting the advertising or offering of unlicensed motor vehicle recycling services, House Bill 5946 will help protect the environment and Connecticut consumers.

LKQ Corporation, after the acquisition of Keystone Automotive Industries, is now the nation's leading supplier of aftermarket collision parts, recycled OEM parts, and refinished alloy wheels and plastic bumpers. LKQ employs over 10,000 people nationwide within a network of approximately 360 facilities in 41 states.

We have four (4) locations in Connecticut: two (2) in Manchester, and one (1) each in Milford and Monroe. LKQ Connecticut employs 80 workers and has a state payroll of over \$3.6 million – dollars that go directly to residents of the state.

During the past few years, we have worked very closely with the Automotive Recyclers Association (ARA). Since 1943, the ARA, an international trade association, has represented an industry dedicated to the efficient removal and reuse of automotive parts, and the safe disposal of inoperable motor vehicles.

ARA services approximately 1,000 member companies through direct membership and over 2,000 other companies through affiliated chapters. Connecticut members include:

Bill's Auto Parts, Inc.; Bishop's Used Auto Parts, Inc.; Champion Polymer Recycling; Connecticut Used Parts & Auto Wrecking, Inc.; Connecticut Auto Recyclers; Corona's Auto Parts, Inc.; Daddio's Auto Parts, Inc.; East Coast Auto Salvage, Inc.; F&S Auto Parts, Inc.; Junkmycar.com; LeBlanc's Auto Parts, Inc.; M&J Auto Recycling, Inc.; Mitchell's Auto Parts dba Chuck & Eddie's; Used Auto Parts; Parker Street Used Auto Parts, Inc.; Petrillo's Used Auto Parts, Inc.; Proliance International, Inc.; Seymour Auto Wrecking; South Windor Auto Parts; Terryville Auto Parts and Tom's Foreign Auto Parts.

As Co-Chair of the House Committee on General Law, I hope you will recognize the many benefits that House Bill 5946 will bring to the recycling industry, environment and consumers of Connecticut. On behalf of LKQ and the ARA, we ask you to vote <u>YES</u> on **HB5946.**

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached at (954) 492-9092.

Respectfully,

Eileen A. Sottile

Vice President, Government Affairs

LKQ Corporation